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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#91MB
5/6/02

Application of Brian M. Burmaster et al.
Serial No. 09/693,418
Filed October 20, 2000
Confirmation No. 1265
For PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SULFUR
Examiner Timothy C. Vanoy

Art Unit 1754

April 26, 2002

LETTER TO THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In the Office action dated March 27, 2002, the Examiner indicated that Cite Nos. 18 and 22 on the Information Disclosure Statement filed February 13, 2001 had not been considered because publication date and author information had been omitted.

Applicants have determined that the literature reference by Lewis G. Harruff (Cite No. 18) was published in 1998.

After reasonable inquiry, Applicants have not been able to determine the author or publication date information for the literature reference "Claus Sulfur Recovery Process" (Cite No. 22). However, while reserving the right to contest the prior art status of this reference should it be necessary, Applicants invite the Examiner to treat this reference as prior art for purposes of examining the subject application.

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* For the convenience of the Examiner, Applicants attach a replacement Form PTO/SB/08A including the missing information for Cite No. 18. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate his consideration of Cite Nos. 18 and/or 21 by initialing the attached replacement Form PTO/SB/08A and returning a copy with the next paper issued in connection with the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,



Vincent M. Kiel, Reg. No. 36,838
SENNIGER, POWERS, LEAVITT & ROEDEL
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

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*Attachment

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